

Appl. No. 09/694,441
Amdt. dated Aug. 11, 2005
Reply to Office Action of May 11, 2005

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to FIGS. 3 and 4. This sheet, which includes FIGS. 3 and 4, replaces the original sheet including FIGS. 3 and 4. In FIG. 3, previously omitted reference numeral "35" has been added. In FIG. 4, previously omitted reference numerals "35," "41," and "42" have been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
 Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 3-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Izutani (U.S. Patent No. 5,483,262). The drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) for failing to show "protruding member 35" as described in the specification. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and/or remarks provided herein.

Objection to the Drawings

2. The Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) for failing to show "protruding member 35" as described in the specification. Applicants include herewith a replacement sheet containing an amendment to FIG. 3 in which previously omitted reference numeral "35" has been inserted. As a result, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw his objection to the drawings.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

3. Claims 1 and 3-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Izutani. Applicants have herein amended independent claim 1 to more clearly distinguish the recitations of said claim from the disclosure and suggestions of Izutani. In particular, Applicants have added the limitation that the actuator includes a protruding member configured to engage the stylus during *unidirectional insertion* of the stylus into the chamber *in a first direction* and to disengage the stylus during *unidirectional removal* of the stylus from the chamber *in a second, opposite direction*. Izutani provides no comparable disclosure or suggestion. Rather, Izutani discloses an electronic device in which a pen or stylus is moved in *two directions* in order to engage a switch and remove or insert the pen. According to all the embodiments disclosed by Izutani, the pen is first pushed down (direction A in FIGs. 2c and 7a) or up (direction B in FIG. 7b), depending on whether arranged for a right-handed person or a left-handed person, to activate the power switch (3), and then up (right-handed) or down (left-handed) to remove the pen from its holding chamber (see FIGs. 2a-2c and 7a-7c; col. 4, lines 43-45). The bidirectional movement is required to activate the switch (3) and remove the stylus due the configurations of Izutani's holding chamber and activation switch. As illustrated in FIGs. 3(a)-3(d) and 5(a)-5(c)

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of Izutani, Izutani's construction of his holding chamber and positioning of the switch at the extreme bottom or top of the pen holding chamber results in an unnecessarily complicated activation and de-activation process.

By contrast, Applicants' claimed configuration includes an actuator having a protruding member that "protrudes into the chamber and is configured to engage the stylus during *unidirectional* insertion of the stylus into the chamber *in a first direction* and to disengage the stylus during *unidirectional* removal of the stylus from the chamber *in a second, opposite direction*" (emphasis added). Thus, Applicants' configuration of its actuator and stylus holding chamber are such that the user need only (a) move the stylus in one direction to insert it into the chamber and thereby engage the actuator, and (b) move the stylus in the opposite direction to remove the stylus from the chamber and thereby disengage the actuator. As a result, Applicants' electronic device configuration results in a much simpler activation and de-activation process. Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 is not disclosed or suggested by Izutani and respectfully request that claim 1 be passed to allowance. Support for Applicants' amendments to claim 1 may be found on page 3, line 31 through page 4, line 7, and in FIG. 3, of Applicants' originally filed specification.

Claims 3-5 are dependent upon claim 1, which claim has been shown allowable above. Therefore, since claims 3-5 each introduce additional subject matter that, when considered in the context of the recitations of claim 1, constitutes patentable subject matter, Applicants respectfully submit that the recitations of claims 3-5 are not disclosed or suggested by Izutani. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 3-5 are in proper condition for allowance.

Amendments to the Specification

4. Applicants have herein amended the Abstract of the Disclosure and paragraphs 0005, 0008, 0019, 0020, 0021, 0022, and 0024 of the specification to correct minor informalities contained therein. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added by such amendments.

Other Amendments to the Claims

5. Applicants have herein amended claim 3 to make the text of such claim consistent with the amendments made to claim 1. Applicants have herein amended claim 5 to recite

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disclosed, but previously unclaimed, subject matter. Applicants submit that all such claim amendments are fully supported by Applicants' originally filed specification (see, e.g., FIG. 3).

Other Amendments to the Drawings

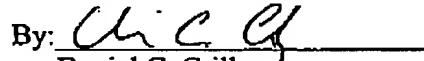
6. Applicants have amended FIG. 4 of the drawings to add previously omitted reference numerals "35," "41," and "42." Applicants submit that all such drawing amendments are fully supported by Applicants' originally filed specification and, therefore, do not introduce any new matter into the specification.

Prior Payment of Issue Fee

7. Regarding Applicants' prior payment of the issue fee, Applicants respectfully request that such prior payment be applied to any newly required issue fee upon issuance of a new Notice of Allowance. If the application becomes abandoned for any reason, Applicants will request that the previously paid fee be credited to the deposit account upon which the fee was drawn.

8. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone, facsimile or email if the Examiner believes that such a communication would advance the prosecution of the instant application. Please charge any necessary fees associated herewith, including extension of time fees (if applicable and not paid by separate check), to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-1111.

Respectfully submitted,

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